

Appl. No. 10/604,015
Amendment dated August 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action of July 1, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

[c1]

1. (original) A dispensing closure for selectively sealing and unsealing the open mouth of a container body formed of a bottom wall and side wall and defining an open mouth disposed at the top end of the side wall, comprising:

an inner lid formed of a first closure panel joined to a seal wall, wherein:

the first closure panel defines an inner dispensing opening circumscribed by the first closure panel,

the first closure panel is applied to the top of the container body open mouth and sized to engage the top edge of the container body side wall at the open mouth and near the periphery of the first closure panel, and

the seal wall is disposed transversely to the first closure panel, is positioned within the open mouth, and is sized to engage the inside face of the container body side wall juxtaposed to the open mouth in a sealing relationship; and

an outer lid formed of a second closure panel joined to a peripheral wall, wherein:

the second closure panel defines an outer dispensing opening circumscribed by the second closure panel,

the second closure panel is applied over the top of the first closure panel and sized to extend laterally beyond the periphery of the first closure panel, and

the peripheral wall depends from the second closure panel and is sized to engage the

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outside face of the container body side wall in a rotatable relationship, at a fixed height with respect to the container side wall, such that the outer lid can be rotated with respect to the inner lid to selectively bring the outer dispensing opening into and out of alignment with the inner dispensing opening.

[c2]

2. (original) The closure of Claim 1, further comprising:

means establishing a fixed spacing between said first closure panel and said second closure panel for sealing said inner dispensing opening against the second closure panel when the inner and outer dispensing openings are in non-aligned position.

[c3]

3. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein:

said second closure panel is connected to said peripheral wall at a fixed relative height;

and further comprising:

means for engaging said first closure panel with said peripheral wall at fixed relative height and allowing relative rotation, establishing a fixed relative height between the first closure panel and second closure panel and sealing said inner dispensing opening against the second closure panel when the inner and outer dispensing openings are in non-aligned position.

[c4]

4. (original) The closure of Claim 3, wherein said means for engaging said first closure panel with said peripheral wall comprises:

a peripheral shoulder on the first closure panel; and

a rib on an inside face of the peripheral wall, spaced below said second closure panel, and maintaining the first closure panel between said rib and the second closure panel.

[c5]

5. (original) The closure of Claim 3, wherein said means for engaging said first closure panel with said peripheral wall comprises:

a peripheral shoulder on the first closure panel; and

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a groove formed in an inside face of the peripheral wall, spaced below said second closure panel, and receiving said peripheral shoulder.

[c6]

6. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said seal wall is generally cylindrical and is disposed perpendicular to said first closure panel.

[c7]

7. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said seal wall depends from the bottom face of said first closure panel.

[c8]

8. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said seal wall extends upwardly from the top face of said first closure panel.

[c9]

9. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said first closure panel comprises:

a central panel lying approximately within a first plane;

an extension panel disposed at the outer edge of said central panel, lying approximately within a second plane that is vertically offset from the first plane;

and wherein said seal wall interconnects the central panel and the extension panel.

[c10]

10. (original) The closure of Claim 9, wherein the plane of said extension panel is offset above the plane of said central panel.

[c11]

11. (original) The closure of Claim 9, further comprising:

a laterally open annular channel carried by said extension panel; and

wherein said outer lid includes a laterally inwardly extending annular wall portion engaged in

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said channel for guiding rotation of the outer lid with respect to the inner lid.

[c12]

12. (original) The closure of Claim 11, wherein said laterally inwardly extending annular wall portion of the outer lid is resiliently biased against said channel.

[c13]

13. (original) The closure of Claim 1, further comprising:

an annular channel structure associated with one of said inner and outer lids; and

an annular channel follower structure associated with the other of said inner and outer lids;

wherein said channel follower structure is engaged in said channel structure, maintaining said first and second closure panels at a fixed relative spacing while permitting relative rotation between the inner and outer lids.

[c14]

14. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said peripheral wall is generally cylindrical and is disposed perpendicular to said second closure panel.

[c15]

15. (currently amended) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said seal wall depends from the bottom face of said ~~second~~ first closure panel.

[c16]

16. (currently amended) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said seal wall extends upwardly from the top face of said ~~second~~ first closure panel.

[c17]

17. (original) The closure of Claim 1, wherein said second closure panel comprises:

a central panel lying approximately within a first plane;

a continuation panel disposed at the outer edge of said central panel, lying approximately within a second plane that is vertically offset from the first plane;

a transverse linking wall connecting the outer edge of the central panel to the inner edge of

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said continuation panel;

and wherein:

said peripheral wall depends from an outer edge of said continuation panel.

[c18]

18. (original) The closure of Claim 17, wherein the plane of said continuation panel is offset above the plane of said central panel.

[c19]

19. (original) The closure of Claim 17, further comprising:

a laterally inwardly extending annular channel follower wall carried by said continuation panel;

wherein said inner lid includes a laterally outwardly open annular channel engaging said channel follower wall and guiding rotation of the outer lid with respect to the inner lid.

[c20]

20. (original) The closure of Claim 19, wherein said laterally inwardly extending annular channel follower wall is resiliently biased against said channel.

[c21]

21. (original) A container, comprising:

a container body formed of a bottom wall and side wall and defining an open mouth disposed at the top end of the side wall;

a dispensing closure including both an inner lid and an outer lid, together selectively sealing and unsealing the open mouth of said container body;

wherein:

said inner lid is formed of a first closure panel joined to a seal wall;

said first closure panel defines an inner dispensing opening circumscribed by the first closure panel;

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the first closure panel is applied to the top of the container body open mouth and sized to engage the top edge of the container body side wall at the open mouth and near the periphery of the first closure panel;

said seal wall is disposed transversely to the first closure panel, is positioned within the open mouth, and is sized to engage the inside face of the container body side wall juxtaposed to the open mouth in a sealing relationship;

said outer lid is formed of a second closure panel joined to a peripheral wall;

said second closure panel defines an outer dispensing opening circumscribed by the second closure panel;

the second closure panel is applied over the top of the first closure panel and sized to extend laterally beyond the periphery of the first closure panel; and

said peripheral wall depends from the second closure panel and is sized to engage the outside face of the container body side wall in a rotatable relationship, at a fixed height with respect to the container side wall, such that the outer lid can be rotated with respect to the inner lid to selectively bring the outer dispensing opening into and out of alignment with the inner dispensing opening.

[c22]

22. (original) The container of Claim 21, further comprising:

means establishing a fixed spacing between said first closure panel and said second closure panel for sealing said inner dispensing opening against the second closure panel when the inner and outer dispensing openings are in non-aligned position.

[c23]

23. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein:

said second closure panel is connected to said peripheral wall at a fixed relative height;

and further comprising:

means for engaging said first closure panel with said peripheral wall at fixed relative height and allowing relative rotation, establishing a fixed relative height between the first closure panel

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and second closure panel and sealing said inner dispensing opening against the second closure panel when the inner and outer dispensing openings are in non-aligned position.

[c24]

24. (original) The container of Claim 23, wherein said means for engaging said first closure panel with said peripheral wall comprises:

a peripheral shoulder on the first closure panel; and

a rib on an inside face of the peripheral wall, spaced below said second closure panel, and maintaining the first closure panel between said rib and the second closure panel.

[c25]

25. (original) The container of Claim 23, wherein said means for engaging said first closure panel with said peripheral wall comprises:

a peripheral shoulder on the first closure panel; and

a groove formed in an inside face of the peripheral wall, spaced below said second closure panel, and receiving said peripheral shoulder.

[c26]

26. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein said seal wall is generally cylindrical and is disposed perpendicular to said first closure panel.

[c27]

27. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein said seal wall depends from the bottom face of said first closure panel.

[c28]

28. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein said seal wall extends upwardly from the top face of said first closure panel.

[c29]

29. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein said first closure panel comprises:

a central panel lying approximately within a first plane;

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an extension panel disposed at the outer edge of said central panel, lying approximately within a second plane that is vertically offset from the first plane;

and wherein said seal wall interconnects the central panel and the extension panel.

[c30]

30. (original) The container of Claim 29, wherein the plane of said extension panel is offset above the plane of said central panel.

[c31]

31. (original) The container of Claim 29, further comprising:

a laterally open annular channel carried by said extension panel; and

wherein said outer lid includes a laterally inwardly extending annular wall portion engaged in said channel for guiding rotation of the outer lid with respect to the inner lid.

[c32]

32. (original) The container of Claim 31, wherein said laterally inwardly extending annular wall portion of the outer lid is resiliently biased against said channel.

[c33]

33. (original) The container of Claim 21, further comprising:

an annular channel structure associated with one of said inner and outer lids;

an annular channel follower structure associated with the other of said inner and outer lids;

wherein said channel follower structure is engaged in said channel structure, maintaining said first and second closure panels at a fixed relative spacing while permitting relative rotation between the inner and outer lids.

[c34]

34. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein said peripheral wall is generally cylindrical and is disposed perpendicular to said second closure panel.

[c35]

35. (currently amended) The container of Claim 21, wherein said seal wall depends from the

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bottom face of said ~~second~~ first closure panel.

[c36]

36. (currently amended) The container of Claim 21, wherein said seal wall extends upwardly from the top face of said ~~second~~ first closure panel.

[c37]

37. (original) The container of Claim 21, wherein said second closure panel comprises:

a central panel lying approximately within a first plane;

a continuation panel disposed at the outer edge of said central panel, lying approximately within a second plane that is vertically offset from the first plane;

a transverse linking wall connecting the outer edge of the central panel to the inner edge of said continuation panel;

and wherein:

said peripheral wall depends from an outer edge of said continuation panel.

[c38]

38. (original) The container of Claim 37, wherein the plane of said continuation panel is offset above the plane of said central panel.

[c39]

39. (original) The container of Claim 37, further comprising:

a laterally inwardly extending annular channel follower wall carried by said continuation panel;

wherein said inner lid includes a laterally outwardly open annular channel engaging said channel follower wall and guiding rotation of the outer lid with respect to the inner lid.

[c40]

40. (original) The container of Claim 39, wherein said laterally inwardly extending annular channel follower wall is resiliently biased against said channel.

[c41]

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41. (original) The container of Claim 21, further comprising:

means establishing a fixed spacing between said container body and said second closure panel for creating a suitably sized spacing to receive said first closure panel between container body and second closure panel in a sealing relationship to the second closure panel when said inner and outer dispensing openings are in non-aligned relationship.

[c42]

42. (original) The container of Claim 22, wherein said means establishing a fixed spacing between said container body and said second closure panel comprises:

an annular laterally extending rib associated with one of said container body and peripheral wall;

an annular rib reception structure associated with the other of said container body and peripheral wall;

wherein said rib is engaged in said rib reception structure, maintaining the container body and second closure panel at a fixed relative spacing while permitting relative rotation between the inner and outer lids.